

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed September 19, 2008. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 15, 20-22, 36, and 37

Claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 15, 20-22, 36, and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Slick, et al.* ("Slick," U.S. Pat. No. 7,111,322) in view of *Kurishita, et al.* ("Kurishita," U.S. Pat. No. 7,100,198).

As indicated above, Applicant has amended each independent claim through this Response. In view of those amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections are moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

Turning to the merits of the claims, Applicant notes that neither Slick nor Kurishita discloses or suggests a system or method for changing a printing mode of a printing device that is to be used on future print jobs. Regarding the Kurishita reference, Kurishita describes specifying, as to each print job, whether the job is a non-secure or secure print job, not changing a print mode that will be used on future print jobs. Therefore, Kurishita does not disclose or suggest "generating a signed request that requests changing of the printing mode that will be used for print jobs that are received by the printing device" or "providing the signed request to the printing device independent of a print job". Applicant notes that it is clear from Applicant's original

disclosure as a whole that print modes are changed on the printing device to change the way future received jobs are processed. In addition, it is clear from Applicant's original disclosure as a whole that the signed requests are not part of a print job that is sent to the printer. Therefore, it is clear that the signed requests are sent independent of a print job.

B. Rejection of Claims 11, 12, and 19

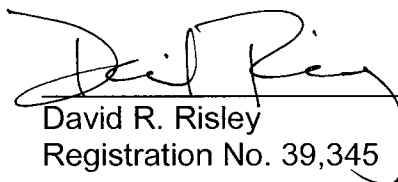
Claims 11, 12, and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Slick* and *Kurishita* as applied to claim 1 and further in view of *Kawamoto, et al.* ("Kawamoto," U.S. Pat. No. 6,120,197).

As indicated above, Applicant has amended each independent claim through this Response. In view of those amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections are moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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